

SILVERSMITHS INDICTED.**ACCUSED OF SELLING DEBASED SILVER AS "STERLING."****Another Phase of the Warfare Between the Big Department Stores and the Silverware Manufacturers—A Statement from the Department Store Men.****The Grand Jury yesterday filed eight indictments against leading silverware manufacturers for violation of the silver-stamping act, which requires all silverware stamped "sterling" to be .925 fine. The firms indicted are Tiffany & Co., the Gorham Manufacturing Company, the Whiting Manufacturing Company, Frank M. Whiting of F. M. Whiting & Co., Robert C. Black and Aaron B. Frost of Black, Starr & Frost, Theodore G. Wood & Co., and George W. Schiebler of George W. Schiebler & Co. The defendants were accused of their indictment, and Delos McCurdy appeared before Judge Newburgh in the General Sessions yesterday to represent them. He requested a postponement of the pleading to the indictments until Monday next, which was granted. Meanwhile those indicted appeared in court, as the District Attorney took into consideration the fact that they were all responsible persons and he did not cause warrants of arrest to be issued. Mr. McCurdy said that his clients told him that they were not aware of any violation of the law on their part, and it was possible that an error had been made.****The indictments are the result of a war between the large department stores and the silversmiths. Several months ago the Grand Jury indicted the proprietors of several department stores for selling illegally stamped and debased silverware, and it is said that the indictments were prepared at the instigation of the silversmiths. The indictments, which the silversmiths filed yesterday resulted in presented to the Grand Jury by E. W. Bloomingdale, a saleman in his employ, and the silversmiths named and bought cuff buttons, coin holders, pencils, and other articles, which were marked "sterling," but proved after assay to be below the standard required by law.****The following statement was issued by the Retail Jewelers Association of 111 Fifth Avenue:****"The indictments of the jewelers, and more particularly of the Gorham Manufacturing Company, must surprise many persons who followed the course of these firms during the past year. When the indictments were found a year ago, the jewelers were loud in their denunciation of the wicked dry goods men, and equally loud in their boast that they would always fight for their rights. The fact of the matter is, the dry goods men were baited because the jewelers had suffered so greatly in the competition which had cut out their enormous profits, that they took advantage of an unreasonable law to attempt to frighten the dry goods men. The penalty under the law was a fine of \$100 for each article that is not up to the standard which it is marked, or greater than that for any other similar article. The dry goods men, and have been quite as anxious to protect the jewelers as the jewelers have pretended to be, but they must naturally depend upon the representations of the jewelers to purchase their goods, and cannot themselves know the contents of the articles they deal in. Now, however, they have been perfectly willing at all times to give up their right to sue for damages or negligence on their part, and would never have excepted to a law which would fine them."****Everybody knows that the reputable department stores guarantee every article they sell, and the majority not only willingly exchange them, but will pay for their repair. These jewelers are all manufacturers, and the maker of an article must necessarily know what its contents are. In speaking before the Senate Committee on Commerce, Vice-President of the Gorham Manufacturing Company, admitted this. He said that it would be impossible for the jeweler to be induced by his firm to be below standard, because his firm was made of portions of every mass of silver used in the establishment. He also said that the jeweler could not be induced to sell products to the department stores, because the latter had not the proper kind of employees to sell such wares; that they did not represent any article, and the jeweler who has no courage to refuse to serve women who enter his saloon unaccompanied, in broad daylight, to get drink. It is no place for a respectable woman to go to a saloon.****Magistrate Crane said he would issue a summons for Kerigan, and the colored woman was compelled to appear, and was remanded to Jefferson Market Court yesterday afternoon to get a chance to talk with Magistrate Crane. After the regular business of the court had been disposed of the two women and the man appeared before the Magistrate. The man asked as spokesman:****"I only gave him the legal consideration of one dollar. I did so, I suppose, in order to make the payment easier."****"Mr. Bachrach was a married man whom you had known only a short time, and she had shown a desire to cultivate her friendship, and she was well disposed toward him, and he had given her his invalid husband. She had charged him about half what his wife was worth."****"Mrs. Bachrach had half her savings invested in the express office, and she had given him the name of a lawyer, Mr. Kelley, to represent her."****"In the case of the jeweler, the officer is, however, a very good man. These jewelers are all manufacturers, and the maker of an article must necessarily know what its contents are."****"In speaking before the Senate Committee on Commerce, Vice-President of the Gorham Manufacturing Company, admitted this. He said that it would be impossible for the jeweler to be induced by his firm to be below standard, because his firm was made of portions of every mass of silver used in the establishment. He also said that the jeweler could not be induced to sell products to the department stores, because the latter had not the proper kind of employees to sell such wares; that they did not represent any article, and the jeweler who has no courage to refuse to serve women who enter his saloon unaccompanied, in broad daylight, to get drink. It is no place for a respectable woman to go to a saloon."****He had given her the policies shortly before his death. He had also offered some other evidence to the court, but she had not taken them. She had written a letter thanking him for the two policies he sent her, saying she would look out for her old friend, Fannie."****"When asked further about her letter regarding the policies, she said that she had written it if he could not lend her the money at the time, and she had only written the letter as a "test." It was written, however, to the jeweler, and she had not told him she intended to see if he would try to fulfil them. When asked what the promises were, she replied:****"The jeweler said he would have to do anything for me."****"So you merely wanted to show him that his promise was not worth \$200?" asked the lawyer.****"No. I wanted to show him that it wasn't well to make so many promises, but I didn't say that she had offered to pay the premiums on the policies, but she would not take them. 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